



Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2008

File No. 224

Senate Bill No. 553

Senate, March 27, 2008

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. LEBEAU of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than October 1,
2 2008, the executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture
3 and Tourism shall establish a Sports Advisory Board within the
4 commission that shall advise the executive director on the most
5 effective ways to utilize state resources to promote, attract and market
6 in-state professional and amateur sports and sporting events. Such
7 board shall also advise the executive director on ways to coordinate
8 the use of state-owned facilities in order to enhance sports-related
9 tourism in the state and develop methods for the dissemination of
10 information concerning in-state professional and amateur sports and
11 sporting events to residents of the state and the northeast.

12 (b) Such advisory board shall consist of one member from each of
13 the following entities: (1) The University of Connecticut's Athletic
14 Department; (2) the Connecticut State University System's Athletic
15 Department; (3) the XL Center; (4) Northland AEG; (5) the Traveler's

16 Championship Golf Tournament; (6) the Pilot Pen Tennis Tournament;
 17 (7) the Special Olympics; (8) the Mohegan Sun Arena; (9) Foxwoods
 18 Resort Casino; (10) Lime Rock Park Race Track; (11) the Arena at
 19 Harbor Yard; (12) New Britain Stadium; (13) the Connecticut Marine
 20 Trades Association; (14) the Office of Policy and Management; (15) the
 21 Department of Economic and Community Development; (16) the
 22 Capital City Economic Development Authority; and (17) any other
 23 entity involved in sports or sporting events that the executive director
 24 deems appropriate.

25 (c) The first meeting of the Sports Advisory Board shall convene not
 26 later than November 15, 2008, and the advisory board shall meet not
 27 less than once per calendar quarter thereafter. The advisory board shall
 28 provide any recommendations of the advisory board to the executive
 29 director not later than thirty days after any such meeting.

30 (d) The members of the advisory board may select a chairperson
 31 from among its membership who shall be responsible for the
 32 scheduling and conducting of any such meeting.

33 (e) The Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism shall
 34 provide staff support to the board.

35 (f) Not later than thirty days prior to each regular session of the
 36 General Assembly, the executive director of the Connecticut
 37 Commission on Culture and Tourism shall submit a report to the joint
 38 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 39 matters relating to commerce that includes information on the status of
 40 the Sports Advisory Board's activities, the implementation of any
 41 recommendations of such advisory board and any legislative
 42 proposals related to such recommendations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

CE *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film	GF - Cost	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCCT) to establish and provide staff support for a Sports Advisory Board. There is a potential cost to CCCT associated with providing staff and administrative support for the board.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 553*****AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism's (CCCT) executive director to appoint a Sports Advisory Board within CCCT to advise her about how to promote the state's sports industry. The members must include state officials and representatives of specified organization that sponsor or conduct sporting events. The director may add more members. She must appoint the board, by October 1, 2008, and CCCT must provide the staff to support it.

The board must convene its first meeting by November 15, 2008 and at least quarterly thereafter. The board members may appoint a chairperson from among themselves whose duties include scheduling and conducting meetings. The director must report annually to the Commerce Committee on the board's activity. The report is due within 30 days before the legislature meets in regular session.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

PURPOSE

The board must advise the director on how to:

1. effectively use the state's resources for promoting, attracting, and marketing in-state professional and amateur sports and sporting events;
2. develop methods for coordinating the way information is disseminated in the state and the northeast about in-state sports

and sporting events; and

3. coordinate the use of state-owned facilities to enhance sports-related tourism in Connecticut.

The board must submit any recommendations regarding these topics to the director within 30 days after it met.

COMPOSITION

The bill requires the director to appoint one representative each from:

1. the athletic departments of the University of Connecticut and the Connecticut State University System,
2. XL Center (formerly, the Hartford Civic Center),
3. Northland AEG,
4. Traveler's Championship Golf Tournament,
5. Pilot Pen Tennis Tournament,
6. Special Olympics,
7. Mohegan Sun Arena,
8. Foxwoods Resort Casino,
9. Lime Rock Park Race Track,
10. Arena at Harbor Yard,
11. New Britain Stadium,
12. Connecticut Marine Trade Association,
13. Office of Policy and Management,
14. Department of Economic and Community Development, and

15. Capital City Economic Development Authority.

The director may also appoint additional members representing entities involved in sports or sporting events she deems appropriate.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The director must report annually to the Commerce Committee about the board. The report must include (1) the status of the board's activities, (2) any of the board's recommendations being implemented, and (3) any legislative recommendations. It is due no later than 30 days before the start of the regular legislative session.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 1 (03/11/2008)